

REMARKS

The Examiner has issued a restriction requirement stating that the application claims six separate inventions. Specifically, the Examiner identifies the six inventions as being:

- I. Claims 1-39 and 122-170, drawn to a device including two layers forming a cavity therebetween in which the second layer has a stiffness greater than the first layer, classified in class 600, subclass 618.
- II. Claims 40-82, drawn to a device including two layers forming a cavity therebetween in which a reinforcement layer is coupled to the second layer, classified in class 600, subclass 618.
- III. Claims 83-103, drawn to a device including two layers forming a cavity therebetween in which a third layer is disposed between the expanding/compliant layer and the outer surface of the vasculature, classified in class 600, subclass 618.
- IV. Claims 104-121, drawn to a device including two layers forming a cavity therebetween in which a portion of the second layer extends past the first layer, classified in class 600, subclass 618.
- V. Claims 171-210, drawn to methods of augmenting blood flow, classified in class 600, subclass 617.
- VI. Claims 211-232, drawn to a system of interconnected cuffs, classified in class 600, subclass 618.

Applicant's elect Group I, Claims 1-39 and 122-170 without traverse. Applicants reserve the right pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected inventions during the pendency of the present application.

Application No. 10/681,821
Reply to Restriction Requirement dated: September 30, 2006
Election/Restriction Requirement dated: May 3, 2006

CONCLUSION

Applicants earnestly believe that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully solicit the Examiner to expedite prosecution of this patent application to issuance. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at (650) 849-3460. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, including petition fees and extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 23-2415 (Docket No. 31513-701.201).

Respectfully submitted,

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